

# Envision Carlsbad Citizens Committee

## Minutes

June 9, 2010

1635 Faraday Avenue, Carlsbad  
Room 173B

### Committee Present

#### Primary Members

Eric Larson (Chair)	Jim Farley (Vice Chair)	
Fred Sandquist	Julie Baker	Sean Bentley
Allen Sweet	Kirk Cowles	Barbara Hamilton
John O'Reilly	Jim Comstock	Hap L'Heureux

#### Alternate Members

Mike Howes	Jack Cumming	
Farrah Douglas	Glen Etherington	Jeannie Sprague-Bentley

Absent: Diane Proulx (Primary), Gina McBride (Primary), Jim Bradley (Alternate), William Kloetzer (Alternate), Robert Nielsen (Alternate), Greg Nelson (Alternate), Guy Roney (Alternate), Robert Gates (Alternate), Sean Sexton (Alternate), Chris Korogi (Alternate)

### City of Carlsbad Staff

*Sandra Holder – Interim Assistant City Manager*  
*Gary Barberio – Community & Economic Development Director*  
*Don Neu – Planning Director*  
*David de Cordova – Principal Planner*  
*Barbara Nedros – Administrative Assistant*

### Consultant

*Rajeev Bhatia – Dyett & Bhatia (on phone)*

Public/other attendees

Chair Eric Larson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**1. Minutes from May 12, 2010 EC3 Meeting**

The minutes of May 12, 2010 were corrected to show that Hap L'Heureux nominated Jim Farley for Vice Chair and not Eric Larson as presented. Jim Farley made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected. Hap L'Heureux seconded the motion. The vote to accept the minutes as corrected was unanimous.

**2. Draft Work Program**

Eric Larson indicated that the Committee had received a copy of the Work Program with changes made to it from comments received from the Committee. Sandra Holder indicated the Committee had before them a marked-up version of the document that listed all the comments and suggested changes received from the members. She stated that staff was available to answer any questions regarding the changes and suggested the Committee could discuss additional changes they would like to make to the document. Staff wanted to make sure that they interpreted the Committee's comments accurately and made the changes accordingly.

At this time Rajeev Bhatia joined the meeting via telephone.

Dave indicated that the yellow highlighted changes are from the Committee members and the non-highlighted changes are from staff.

Eric Larson thanked those Committee members who had submitted changes and asked the Committee if they had issues with any of the changes to bring them up for discussion. In addition, he encouraged Committee members to point out other changes that need to be made since they received the redlined version.

Allen Sweet brought up that he heard a phrase that he liked and thought that it should be used in regards to the Local Coastal Program and he did not see any mention of it in the document. The phrase is "leverage the use of the coastal assets." He could not see that it made the edit.

Sandra Holder suggested that it be incorporated into Working Paper #3, but Mr. Sweet mentioned amphitheater and ocean front restaurants, which this is more than about the city's natural resources. So it may have to go into a couple of different places.

Julie Baker had a follow-up question for Allen, "Given in light of his comments about the economics, is that how you are meaning it? Should we be doing a better job of taking advantage of Carlsbad as a tourist town and a destination and not just the beach resources, but also the three lagoons and other coastal resources that we have from an economic point of view?" [DdeC1]

Allen indicated that would all fit within the boundary of it, but said that he was not thinking strictly in terms of tourism, but also in terms of ~~the lagoon~~the lagoons, for example: there are nature trails and things that people could go and experience as part of the idea of leveraging coastal resources.

There was some discussion regarding this issue and Rajeev Bhatia indicated that this could probably be added to some of the working papers without pigeon-holing it.

Eric Larson reminded the Committee that the Planning Commission will review the draft work program on July 7<sup>th</sup>, so the Committee needed to complete its review at this time. He asked Mr. Sweet and the rest of the Committee if it was ~~acceptable to~~acceptable to leave it for staff or the consultant to find the right place in the Work Program to reference leveraging of coastal assets. Mr. Sweet and the rest of the Committee indicated that this was acceptable.

Sandra Holder said that what she was hearing was that they wanted to use the precise language "leveraging our coastal assets".

Allen Sweet said that he did not want to be so precise about the wording or its location except that he liked the word "leverage" because it implies something very specific to many people.

Rajeev Bhatia offered that adding language about leveraging coastal assets may fit on page 15 of the work program. The Committee agreed that this would be an appropriate place.

Hap L'Heureux made an overall comment that he felt the format worked, that staff and the consultant did a very good job of trying to synthesize both exact words and philosophy and the concepts and try to figure out where to put all the information into the document. He felt that the resulting document was a very good foundation to work from.

Jim Farley asked about optional elements to a general plan that have not been brought to the attention of this Committee, and whether it was something they should be taking a look at some time.

Sandra Holder indicated that there are choices to be made but that they do not need to be made right now. State law requires cities to address seven elements (issue areas) in their general plans, but there is no requirement to name them as they are in state law.

Rajeev Bhatia indicated that he felt that the work program incorporates some of the optional element ideas. For example, economic development is not a required element, but is one that is proposed for this General Plan update. Similarly, historic preservation is another example of an optional element that is not required by the State.

The Committee had some discussion regarding optional elements that may be included in the update process. It was mentioned that this would be a work in progress over the two year period that the Committee will be working on during the General Plan update.

Sandra Holder said that by starting out with the year-long Community Vision, the city has already exceeded state requirements. Using those nine core values as the foundation for the work program already brings far more into this process than what would have been brought forward in a typical general plan update.

Hap L'Heureux said that when the original General Plan was created everything was put in neat little niches and categories and had a label and suggested this time around it could be "a lot more fluid", -with graphics and charts and look completely different than ~~than~~ the current version.

Sandra Holder said that from a policy perspective, the updated General Plan will be easier to use. It is not like the Zoning Ordinance where one looks at the zone and the development standards for that zone. The General Plan is an overall policy document that is required to be internally consistent.

Dave de Cordova said that an opportunity that did not exist last time the General Plan was updated in 1994, is the advent of other media and technology. In addition to structuring the General Plan in its print form, there are opportunities to deliver it in other forms: via the web, etc. Structuring the General Plan into discrete elements becomes less relevant because of the other forms available to deliver and make the information more accessible.

Eric Larson asked if there were any other comments.

Barbara Hamilton said she had commented about soils in Carlsbad. Worldwide there is a topsoil erosion problem. Barbara said that she was glad to see this topic in the Work Program but wanted it understood that she was not just talking about agriculture soils because there is not as much agricultural soils as there are urban soils in Carlsbad.

There was some discussion on what should be included under soils in the Work Program by the Committee. Gary Barberio pointed out that soils are also talked about on Page 51.

Rajeev suggested that they make soils a separate topic. Barbara Hamilton said she just thinks it needs to be addressed besides the agricultural aspects. The Committee agreed on this issue.

Eric Larson asked if there were any other suggestions. He then asked for a motion to send the Draft Work Program for submitting to the Planning Commission for review. The motion was seconded. The vote was unanimous to forward the Draft Work Program to the Planning Commission for review.

**3. Next Steps**

The Draft Work Program will be taken to the Planning Commission for review and then to the City Council for adoption.

The Committee agreed that it was a good idea if a member could be present at these meetings. Jim Farley stated he could be available for the Planning Commission meeting on July 7, 2010.

The next meeting for the Committee is tentatively scheduled for September 22, 2010

**4. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**5. Adjourn** – Eric Larson adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m.